

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested. Claim 17 is amended without prejudice or disclaimer.

Objection to Claim 17

The Office Action objects to claim 17 for informalities. Applicants have made the appropriate amendment to claim 17 as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

Double-Patenting Rejections

The Office Action rejects claims 11-40 provisionally on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over the claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,704,360. The enclosed Terminal Disclaimer addresses the double patenting rejection. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are allowable.

CONCLUSION

Having addressed all rejections and objections, Applicants respectfully submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If necessary, the Commissioner for Patents is authorized to charge or credit the **Novak, Druce & Quigg, LLP, Account No. 14-1437** for any deficiency or overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 24, 2007

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